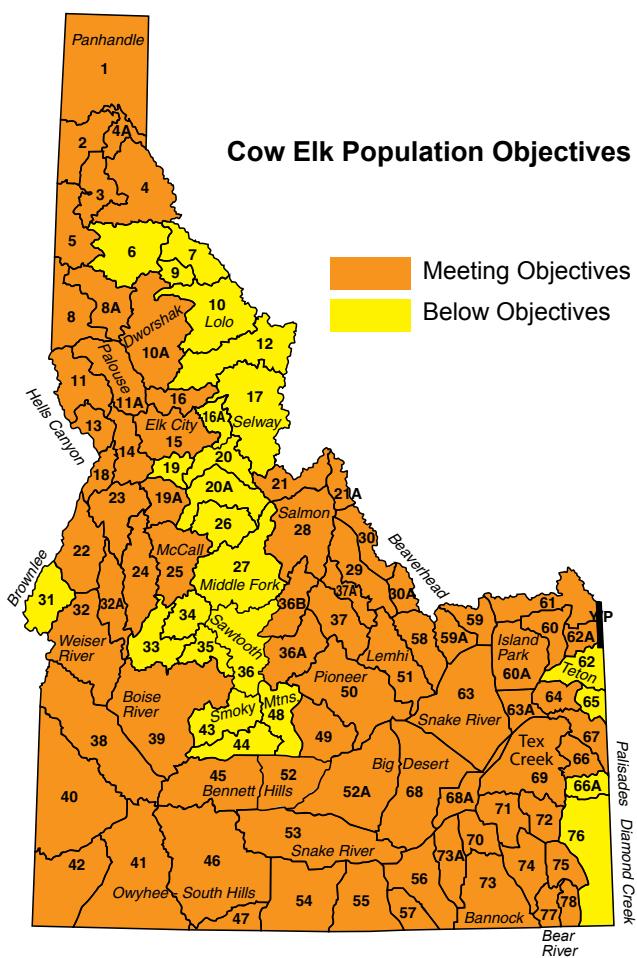


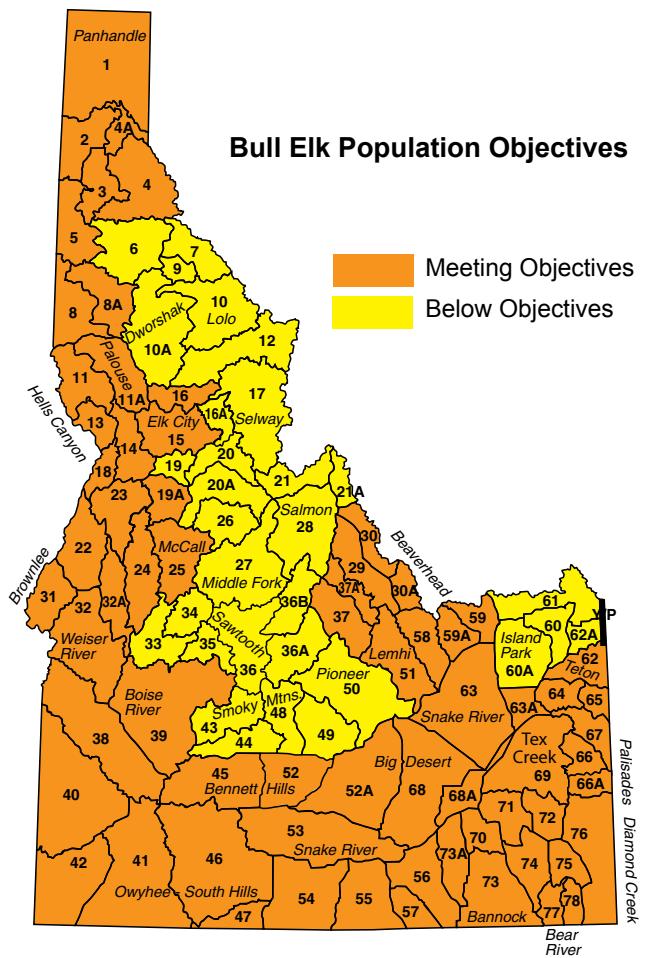
2012 Elk Population Status by Elk Zone

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/hunt/elk/>

Cow Elk Population Objectives



Bull Elk Population Objectives



ELK

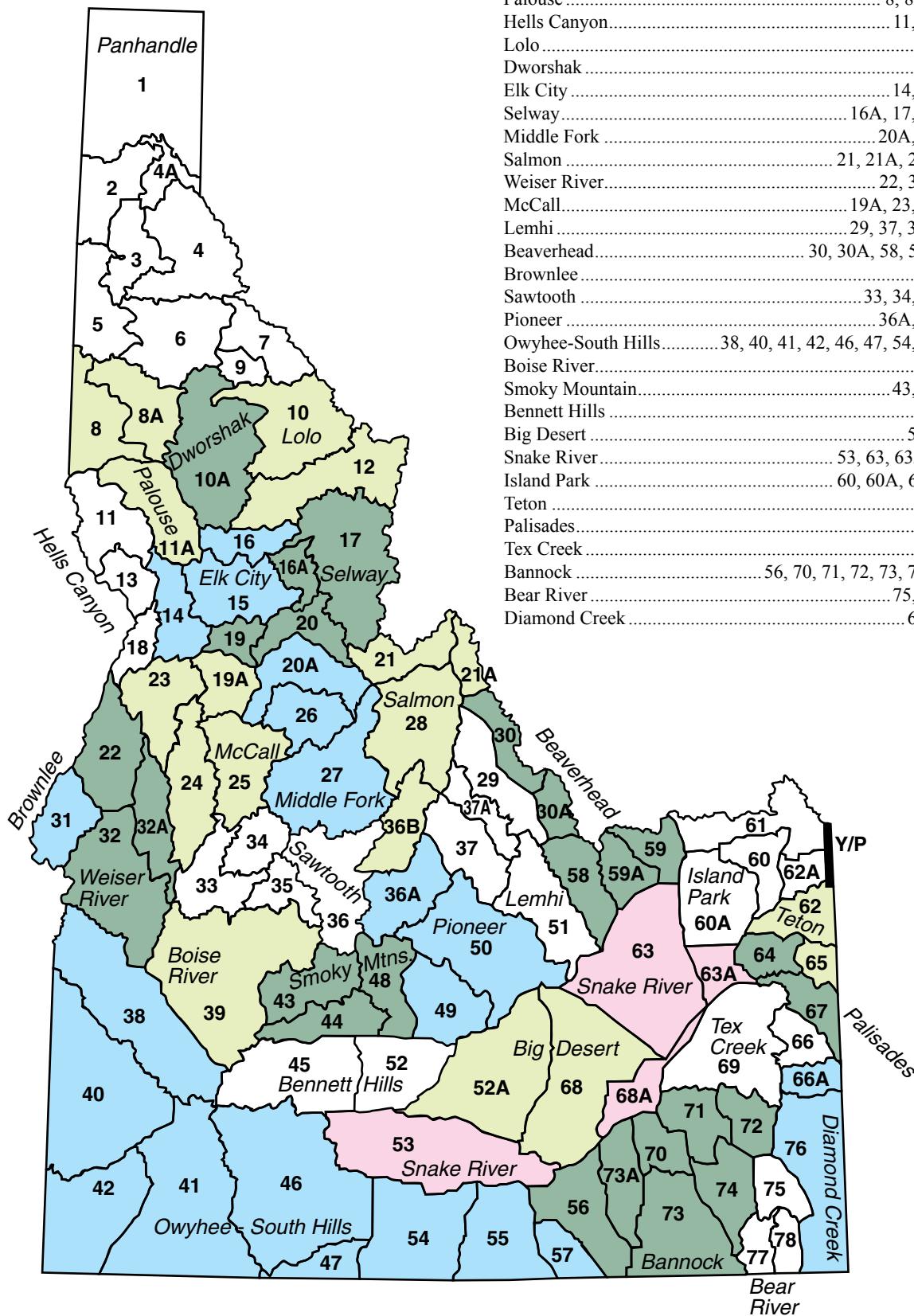
Elk populations are constantly changing in response to weather, predation, land management, fire events and development. To maintain elk hunting experiences desired by sportsmen, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game must manage herd sizes within desired ranges, provide high quality hunting opportunities, maintain availability of general hunts, and minimize depredations on agricultural lands, by adjusting hunting seasons and hunter numbers. Fish and Game also works closely with land owners and managers to ensure high quality elk habitat is found throughout the state.

Currently, elk herds meet or exceed management objectives in 19 of 29 elk management zones, and provide hunting opportunities ranging from trophy bulls to extra cow hunting opportunities to meet objectives. In the remaining 10 zones, Fish and Game is working hard to improve elk survival to allow elk herds to meet objectives, including cutting back on some hunts and implementing programs to reduce predation.

Changing conditions and management challenges are part of the landscape, but with responsive management and more than 100,000 elk, Idaho continues to provide a variety of elk hunting opportunities desired by sportsmen.

For additional information on elk management objectives and hunter success rates, please visit our website at:
<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/hunt/elk/>

Elk Management Zones



ELK

2012 Elk Hunting Seasons

Elk hunting is managed in 29 elk zones. In addition, Fish and Game has established a two-tag system to offer elk hunters the most general season choices. Hunters may select one zone and choose either an "A tag" or a "B tag" for that zone. A few zones offer only an A tag.

In general, A tags provide more opportunity for muzzleloader and archery hunters, and B tags provide more opportunity for centerfire rifle hunters.

Controlled hunts, allocated by random drawing, also are available in most of the state.

Any person who receives a controlled hunt tag for elk is prohibited from hunting in any other elk hunt, **except** for depredation hunts, extra antlerless elk hunts or by buying a leftover nonresident elk tag, if available.

Note: Residents or nonresidents may buy one unsold nonresident general season deer and elk tag at the nonresident price, starting August 28, to be used as a second tag.

Antlered elk: Only elk with at least one antler longer than 6 inches may be taken in any season which is open for antlered elk only. In antlered seasons, including spike-only, antlers must accompany the carcass while in transit.

Antlerless elk: Only elk without antlers or with antlers shorter than 6 inches may be taken in any season which is open for antlerless elk only.

Spike elk: Only elk with no branching on either antler and at least one antler longer than 6 inches may be taken in any season which is open for spike elk only. A branch is an antler projection at least 1 inch long and longer than the width of the projection.

Brow-tined elk: Only elk having at least one antler with a visible point on the lower half of the main beam which is 4 inches or greater in length may be taken in any season open for brow-tined elk only.

Archery & Muzzleloader Permits

Any person hunting in an archery-only season must have their license with archery permit validation. In a muzzleloader-only season, hunters must have a muzzleloader permit validation - including controlled hunts.

Resident Youth General Elk Tag

Resident youth elk hunters who purchase a general season elk zone tag while they are between ages 12 and 17, inclusive, may participate in any A or B tag elk season within the specified zone, regardless of whether they purchased an A tag or B tag. All other season, weapon restrictions, and commission rules apply. Controlled hunts are excluded.

Nonresident Elk Tag

Nonresident elk and deer tags, **excluding** nonresident junior mentored elk tags, are valid to take a black bear, mountain lion or gray wolf instead of an elk, if a season is open for that species, where and when the elk tag is valid, and if there is an open elk season in that same unit. See page 86.



Legal in spike elk hunts

Spike Elk

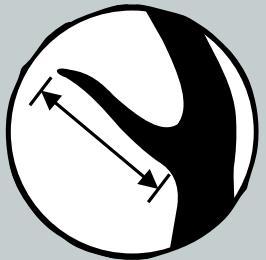
One antler must be at least 6 inches or longer. (Not legal in brow-tined elk hunts.)



Not legal in spike elk hunts or brow-tined elk hunts

Branch antlered bull (or larger)

Not legal for spike-only hunts if branched point is longer than 1 inch.



Antler branch is a projection 1 inch or more in length.

Legal in brow-tined elk hunts



Caution - Archers: "Any weapon" antlerless elk hunts will be open on or within one mile of private fields on which cultivated crops are currently growing, in all or parts of the following zones: Palouse, Weiser, Lemhi, Beaverhead, Pioneer, and Smoky Mountain. Additionally, an any-weapon controlled hunt occurs from August 4 - September 15 in a portion of Unit 48 (see Hunt No. 2102, page 45). Please use appropriate caution.

Panhandle Zone (Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 9)					
	September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — antlered only Sep 6 - Sep 30	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 25 - Oct 29	Muzzleloader only — antlered only Unit 4 only Nov 20 - Dec 1	Archery only — antlered only Dec 10 - Dec 16	
B Tag	Archery only — antlered only Sep 6 - Sep 12	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 10 - Oct 24			
Palouse Zone (Units 8, 8A, 11A)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution Page 30			Muzzleloader only — spike or antlerless Unit 8A only Dec 2 - Dec 9 See Note 1, Page 41	
	Any weapon — antlerless only Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary, See Note 2, Page 41 Aug 1 - Sep 15				
B Tag	Archery only — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 10 - Oct 24	Any weapon — any elk Oct 15 - Oct 17 Private Lands only, excluding corporate timber lands		
Hells Canyon Zone (Units 11, 13, 18) — Controlled Hunts Only					

Lolo Zone (Units 10, 12)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — antlered only Aug 30 - Sep 30				
Note: 404 A Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.					
B Tag		Any weapon — antlered only Oct 10 - Nov 3			
Note: 1,088 B Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.					
Dworschak Zone (Unit 10A)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30				
Archery only — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14					
B Tag		Any weapon — antlered only Oct 10 - Nov 3			
Note: 2,380 B Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.					
Elk City Zone (Units 14, 15, 16)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Unit 15 only Aug 30 - Sep 30				
Archery only — spike or antlerless Unit 15 & 16 only Nov 21 - Dec 9					
B Tag		Any weapon — antlered only Units 15 & 16 only : Oct 10 - Nov 3 Unit 14 only : Oct 10 - Oct 24			
Note: 1,790 B Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.					

Selway Zone (Units 16A, 17, 19, 20)					
	September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 1 - Oct 31				
B Tag	Note: 647 A Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.				
Middle Fork Zone (Units 20A, 26, 27)					
	September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Any weapon — Units 20A & 26 - antlered only Unit 27 - brow-tined bulls only Oct 1 - Oct 31				
B Tag	Note: 1,551 A Tag Quota Available On First-Come, First-Served Basis. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.				
Salmon Zone (Units 21, 21A, 28, 36B)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Units 21, 21A & 36B only Aug 30 - Sep 30				
B Tag	Note: 2,507 B Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.				

Weiser River Zone (Units 22, 32, 32A)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	<p>Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See Note A below, See archers caution Page 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies in Units 32 & 32A, See Page 79</p> <p>Any weapon — antlerless only Units 22 & 32A only: Aug 15 - Sep 30 Outside National Forest System Boundary only, See Note C below, Extremely Limited Access</p>	<p>Any weapon — antlerless only Unit 32 only: Aug 1 - Nov 30 Please obtain permission to hunt private land before buying this tag! See Note B below, Extremely Limited Access. Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79</p>	<p>Any weapon — antlered only Oct 25 - Nov 3 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies in Units 32 & 32A, See Page 79 Short range weapons only on Montour WMA</p>		
B Tag					

Note A - Closed area: That portion of Unit 32 west of the following boundary. Beginning at the Unit 32/38 boundary at Emmett, then north on Highway 52 to the Van Dussen Road, then north on the Four Mile Road to the Unit 32/32A boundary. Most elk are on private property in this area.

Note B - Open area: That portion of Unit 32 west of the following boundary. Beginning at the Unit 32/38 boundary at Emmett, then north on Highway 52 to the Van Dussen Road, then north on the Four Mile Road to the Unit 32/32A boundary is **closed**.

Note C - Open areas: That portion of Unit 22 that lies outside National Forest System Boundary and drains into the Weiser River, upstream from and including the Hornet Creek drainage and downstream from and including the West Fork Weiser River drainage but excluding the entire Lost Creek Drainage. That portion of Unit 32A that lies outside National Forest System Boundary and drains into the Weiser River upstream from and including the Middle Fork Weiser River drainage and downstream from but excluding the East Fork Weiser River drainage. Most elk are on private property in this area. The National Forest System Boundary is a legislatively set boundary - it is not necessarily the boundary of Forest Service property. State, private, and other lands within the National Forest System Boundary are not open to hunting during this season. (Please refer to a U.S. Forest Service map for the location of this boundary.)

McCall Zone (Units 19A, 23, 24, 25)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Short range weapons only — antlerless only Units 23 & 24 only Outside National Forest System Boundary, See Note B below Aug 15 - Sep 30	Any weapon — spike only Short range weapons only within described boundaries in Unit 24, See Note A below Oct 5 - Oct 14	Muzzleloader only — antlerless only Units 23 & 24 only Outside National Forest System Boundary, See Note B below Nov 10 - Nov 30		
B Tag		Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Nov 3	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Nov 3		Short range weapons only within described boundaries, See Note A below.

Note A - Short range weapons **only** in that portion of Unit 24 within the following boundary: Beginning in McCall at the junction of State Highway 55 and Boydston Street, then south on Boydston Street to West Valley Road, then west and south along West Valley Road and West Mountain Road to Cabarton Road, then north on Cabarton Road to State Highway 55, then north on State Highway 55 to Farm-To-Market Road, then north on Farm-To-Market Road to Elo Road, then west on Elo Road to State Highway 55, then north on State Highway 55 to the point of beginning.

Note B - You may hunt only outside the National Forest System Boundary. The National Forest System Boundary is a legislatively set boundary - it is not necessarily the boundary of Forest Service property. State, private, and other lands within the National Forest System Boundary are not open to hunting during this season. (Please refer to a U.S. Forest Service map for the location of this boundary.)

Lemhi Zone (Units 29, 37, 37A, 51)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution Page 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79			Muzzleloader only — antlerless only Nov 25 - Dec 9 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79	
A Tag	Any weapon — antlerless only Unit 29 only: Aug 1 - Sep 15 Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary, See Note 2, Page 41 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79		Any weapon — spike only Units 37 & 51 only Nov 1 - Nov 7 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79		
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				
Beaverhead Zone (Units 30, 30A, 58, 59, 59A)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution Page 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79			Muzzleloader only — antlerless only Oct 15 - Oct 31 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79	
A Tag	Any weapon — antlerless only Unit 30 only: Aug 1 - Sep 30 Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary, See Note 2, Page 41 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79				
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				
Brownlee Zone (Unit 31)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only— any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30				
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				

Sawtooth Zone (Units 33, 34, 35, 36)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30				
B Tag	Note: 566 A Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011. Note: 1,526 B Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Nov 8			
Pioneer Zone (Units 36A, 49, 50)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution Page 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79				
A Tag	Any weapon — antlerless only Unit 36A only : Aug 1 - Sep 30 Near cultivated fields outside National Forest System Boundary, See Note 2, Page 41 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79				
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				
Owyhee - South Hills Zone (Units 38, 40, 41, 42, 46, 47, 54, 55, 57)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag					
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				

Boise River Zone (Unit 39)					
	September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Muzzleloader only — antlerless only Sep 8 - Sep 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79		Archery only — any elk Nov 10 - Nov 30 See Note 3, Page 41		
B Tag			Any weapon — antlered only Nov 1 - Nov 9 Portion of Unit closed, See Note 4, Page 41		
Smoky Mountain Zone (Units 43, 44, 48)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Units 43 & 48 only Aug 30 - Sep 30 See archers caution Page 30			Any weapon — spike only Nov 1 - Nov 7	
B Tag	Note: 726 A Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.				
Bennett Hills Zone (Units 45, 52)					
	September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Muzzleloader only — antlerless only Sep 1 - Sep 14 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79				
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				
Big Desert Zone (Units 52A, 68)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30				
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				

Snake River Zone (Units 53, 63, 63A, 68A)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Unit 68A only: Aug 1 - Sep 30 Any weapon — any elk Unit 63 only: Aug 1 - Aug 31 Short range weapons only on Mud Lake WMA Short range weapons only — any elk Unit 63A only: Aug 1 - Aug 31		Archery only — antlerless only Unit 68A only: Oct 1 - Dec 31 Any weapon — antlerless only Unit 63 only: Sep 1 - Dec 31 Short range weapons only on Mud Lake WMA		
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts		Short range weapons only — antlerless only Unit 63A only: Sep 1 - Dec 31 Short range weapons only — any elk Unit 53 only: Aug 1 - Dec 31 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79		
Island Park Zone (Units 60, 60A, 61, 62A)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30	Any weapon — spike only Oct 15 - Oct 28 Short range weapons only on Chester Wetlands WMA	Muzzleloader only — spike or antlerless Unit 61 only Nov 11 - Dec 9		
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts				
Teton Zone (Units 62, 65)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30	Any weapon — antlerless only Oct 22 - Oct 31			
B Tag	Archery only — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Oct 21			
Palisades Zone (Units 64, 67)					
	August/September	October	November	December	
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30		Any weapon — antlerless only Oct 22 - Nov 30		
B Tag	Archery only — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sept 14	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Oct 21			

Tex Creek Zone (Units 66, 69)

	August/September	October	November	December
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79		Any weapon — antlerless only Oct 22 - Nov 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79	
B Tag	Archery only — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Oct 21 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79		

Bannock Zone (Units 56, 70, 71, 72, 73, 73A, 74)

	August/September	October	November	December
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies in Units 56, 70 & 73, See Page 79	Any weapon — antlerless only Units 70, 71, 72, 73, 73A & 74 only Oct 25 - Nov 15 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies in Units 70 & 73, See Page 79	Muzzleloader only — antlerless only Nov 16 - Nov 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies in Units 56, 70 & 73, See Page 79	
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts			

Bear River Zone (Units 75, 77, 78)

	September	October	November	December
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79	Any weapon — antlerless only Oct 25 - Nov 15 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79	Muzzleloader only — antlerless only Nov 16 - Dec 31 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79	
B Tag	Archery only — spike or antlerless Aug 30 - Sep 14 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79	Any weapon — antlered only Oct 15 - Oct 24 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79		

Diamond Creek Zone (Units 66A, 76)

	August/September	October	November	December
A Tag	Archery only — any elk Aug 30 - Sep 30 Motorized Hunting Rule Applies, See Page 79			
B Tag	No B Tags in this Zone — See Controlled Hunts			

Note: 1,836 A Tag Quota Available First-Come, First-Served. Capped tags go on sale for Residents 7/10/2012 and Nonresidents 12/1/2011.

ELK GENERAL SEASON SPECIAL AREA DESCRIPTIONS

- **Note 1 — Unit 8A Muzzleloader Spike or Antlerless Hunt** — That portion of Unit 8A east of State Highway 6 and State Highway 9 and north of the following line: Beginning at the boundary of Unit 8A at its junction with State Highway 8 at Deary, then east on Highway 8 to Forest Service Road 1963 at Helmer, then south and east on Forest Service Road 1963 to Long Meadow Creek, then southeast on Long Meadow Creek to Dworshak Reservoir, then east along the shoreline of Dworshak Reservoir to the Unit 8A boundary at Dent Bridge.
- **Note 2 — Outside the National Forest System Boundary in Palouse, Lemhi, Beaverhead and Pioneer Zones — Antlerless Hunts:** These hunts are open only outside the National Forest System Boundary within 1 mile of private fields on which cultivated crops are currently growing. The National Forest System Boundary is a legislatively set boundary — it is not necessarily the boundary of Forest Service property. State, private and other lands within the National Forest System Boundary are not open to hunting during this season. (Please refer to a U.S. Forest Service map for the location of this boundary.) “Private fields on which cultivated crops are currently growing” is defined as: fields on which soil has been used or broken up for the raising of crops, and artificially irrigated pasture. “Currently” means during the current or most recent growing season. Lands enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside farm programs are specifically excluded.
- **Note 3 — Unit 39 Archery Hunt CLOSED Area:** That portion of Unit 39 within Ada County, **and** that portion of Unit 39 within the following boundary: Beginning at the intersection of State Highway 21 and the Middle Fork Boise River Road (Forest Road 268), east on Forest Road 268 to Cottonwood Creek-Thorn Creek Road (Forest Road 377), to South Fork of Thorn Creek to confluence of Thorn Creek, north and west on Thorn Creek to the confluence with Mores Creek, south and west along the center of Mores Creek including the Mores Creek arm of Lucky Peak Reservoir to Highway 21 to the point of beginning is **closed**.
- **Note 4 — Portion of Unit 39 closed:** That portion of Unit 39 south and east of Blacks Creek Road and south of the South Fork of Boise River is **closed**.

ELK

